



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

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Jane Dee Hull
Governor

John L. Clayton
Director

July 6, 2001

WORKFORCE INFORMATION MEMO #8-01

SUBJECT: Arizona Welfare-to-Work (WtW) Definitions for "Having Difficulty Paying Child Support Obligations" and "Underemployed"

BACKGROUND: The 1999 WtW Amendments introduced revised eligibility criteria to provide greater flexibility in serving disadvantaged populations. Among the eligibility revisions for the 70% funding category, is the inclusion of Noncustodial Parents (NCP) who have difficulty paying child support obligations or who are underemployed, and meet certain other criteria.

For the purpose of WtW eligibility, Arizona defines a Noncustodial Parent (NCP) "having difficulty paying child support obligations" as an individual whose income is not commensurate with documentable household expenditures. Also, for WtW eligibility, the state defines an "underemployed" individual as one who is (1) working part time, but desires full-time work; **OR** (2) who is working in employment not commensurate with the individual's demonstrated level of educational attainment; (3) working full time, but whose current annualized wage rate (for a family of one), or whose family's current annualized income, is not in excess of (a) the poverty level, or (b) 70% of the Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL).

ACTION REQUIRED: Please distribute this memo to all local area staff responsible for administering the WtW program.

If you have questions, please contact Ms. Desiree Taggart, MIS/Policy Manager or your quality assurance liaison at (602) 542-3957.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stan Flowers". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stan Flowers
Acting Deputy Program Administrator
Workforce Development Administration

SF:PG:mb